

•• Help the Blind • Foundation

VISION FOR LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

Annual Performance 2017

OUR VISION

To successfully elevate the economic status of the visually impaired students in India, thereby improving their image in the eyes of the society.



OUR MISSION

To achieve our vision of elevating the status of VI students by providing access to higher education enabling them to get jobs in today's competitive environment

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We are pleased to report that more than 700 students have already graduated with B.A., M.A., and B.Ed., degrees as of March 2017 and another 429 students will graduate this year. Quite a few of them have been able to find jobs in Government services, Banks including the Reserve Bank of India and corporates and IT companies like Amazon etc., Our best wishes to the others for a meaningful life ahead in their career.



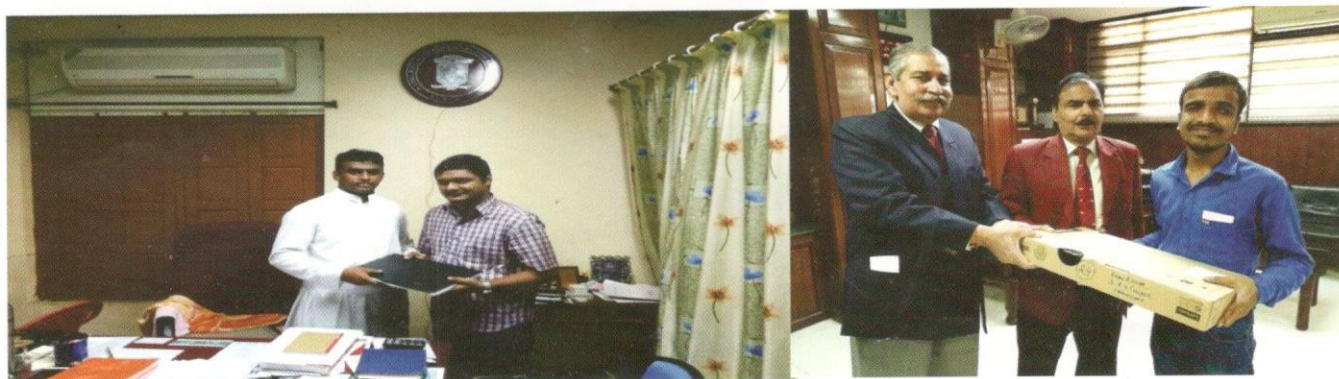
Currently, we are supporting around 1700 students, almost 60% more than that of the previous year in 216 reputed colleges spread around 11 states in India. This includes 111 students pursuing Masters Degree courses. We have the maximum number of students in the Nation's capital, New Delhi with around 500 students followed by Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. A detailed procedure has been laid out in the selection of students for awarding scholarship by collecting the applications, duly certified by the college authorities and by a formal one to one interview by a volunteer of the Foundation - mostly in the College premises and with the cooperation and assistance from the college authorities. The applications are scrutinized by the Foundation's officials in Chennai and approved by two of the trustees. The payment is made by a crossed cheque in favour of the College who in turn disburse it to the concerned student or to the student direct.

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We have given laptops to Top 16 student-beneficiaries of our scholarship programme and 14 laptops to 5 colleges for strengthening their Resource Centres so that more students will be able to access computers. Thanks to a donor in India, Our Chennai Foundation has distributed 2000 T-Shirts to all our students, coordinators in colleges which helped further in cementing the bondage with the students.



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We are also happy to report that our students have been doing extremely well in extra curricular activities with 80 of them participating and achieving national level positions in different areas like Chess, Cricket, Music, Athletics, Stage Play, Painting and Poetry and some of them have won medals in para Olympics.



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Our Volunteer strength has now increased to 35 based in 11 states and this has helped the Foundation maintain a close relationship with the students in mentoring and monitoring their progress besides in conducting interviews and due diligence work by coordinating with the college administrators.

We have taken up a larger premises for our office in Chennai to cater to our increased requirements of space and staff. We have set up a separate legal entity in USA and have been able to get tax exemption for donations made by the US residents to the Foundation. I am also delighted to inform you that HTBF USA has also been nominated under Employee Participation Programme of Microsoft USA.

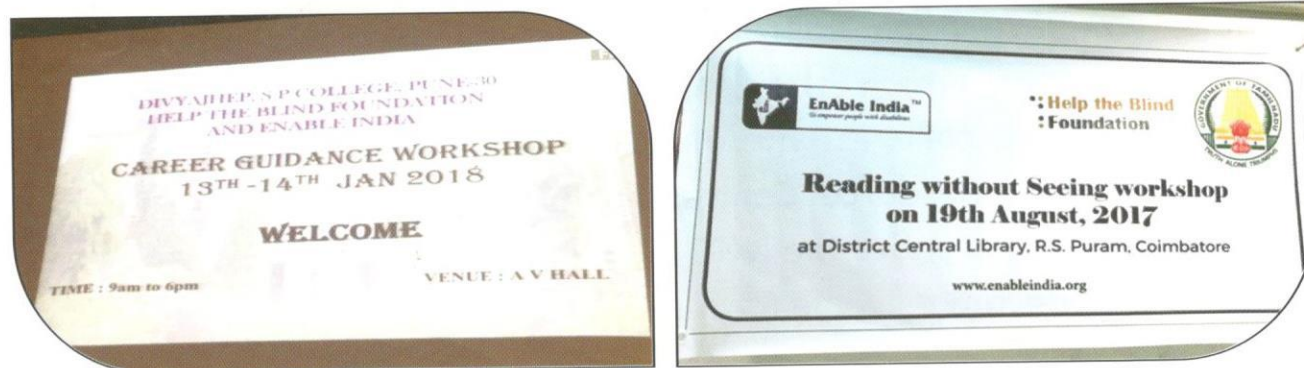
In India, we have been approved for the Big Bridge Scheme of the NASSCOM under which they will be donating us computers for distribution to the colleges where we have our student-beneficiaries for strengthening the Resource Centres for Computer Education. We have also been registered under the NGO Darpan scheme of the Government of India and thus become eligible for funding support from the Government.



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With a view to making our students employable, we have organized two workshops for our visually impaired students in Pune and in Coimbatore on career awareness and soft skills development. We are planning to have one such programme each in BHU Varanasi and in New Delhi by end March/early April. While all these programmes have so far been conducted by drawing on the resources of Enable India, a charitable trust working towards empowering persons with disability, we shall explore conducting such programmes with the help of other similarly placed organisations in Chennai, Bangalore, Pune, Delhi and Ahmedabad. This will help us cover more of our students in the area of career awareness and soft skills development

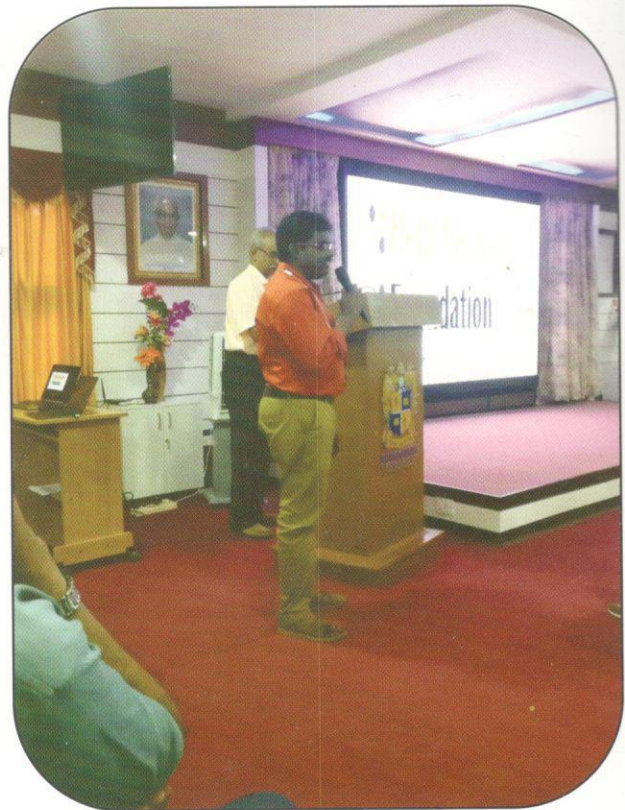


We have planned to increase the number of our students under our support to 2000 taking in to account, the 429 students who will be graduating this year. We believe that all capable visually impaired boys & girls should have opportunities to receive university education and that to prepare the visually impaired community for jobs in modern economy, higher education is a necessity.

We are an Equal Opportunity Provider of scholarships and other facilities to the visually impaired and do not discriminate on the basis of religion, gender, caste or community.

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I am thankful to the donor community in Hong Kong as well as in other countries and also In India for their great support to us in furthering the cause of education and employment to the visually impaired students in India. I and my fellow workers and volunteers in India hope to receive the same support and cooperation in the future years so that more VI students may benefit.

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LET ME HELP YOU TO
CROSS THE ROAD

